

Theodore Melvin Peterson



1919-2001

Theodore Melvin Peterson ("Ted"), a long-time resident of Bountiful, UT died Monday, May 14, 2001 in the Norwalk, CT Hospital. His death was attributed to pneumonia caused by complications following a fall. He was born in Woods Cross, UT on October 24, 1919, the eleventh of sixteen children of Bennett and Florence Peterson. He married Ileana Grace Wendrich ("Ann") December 26, 1942 in the Salt Lake Temple.

He was trained as a B-17 bomber pilot and assigned to duty in England during World War II. His plane was subsequently shot down over occupied France, and he escaped with the assistance of the French Resistance. Years later he reunited with those in France who assisted him and he became active in the Air Force Escape and Evasion Society.

After the war, the Petersons settled in St. George, UT where Ted established a Real Estate and Insurance brokerage and served on the St. George City Council. He also served as President of the St. George Rotary Club, and co-chaired the Washington County Red Cross Crusade. After 17 years they moved to Las Vegas, NV where they resided until 1970 when they returned to Davis County. He served as Chairman of the Davis County Council on Aging, and also Chairman of the Davis County American Cancer Society.

He was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served in many positions of leadership including bishop, high counselor, counselor in two stake presidencies (St. George UT and Las Vegas NV), Associate Director of Temple Square, a full-time mission to the Chicago Illinois Temple and sealer in the Chicago and Salt Lake temples. He is survived by his wife, Ann Peterson of Bountiful, UT; two brothers, Joseph Peterson (Antleem) of Weiser, ID and Bennett P. Peterson (Rose Ann) of Bountiful, UT; four sisters, Priscilla Collins (Verg) of Santa Maria, CA, Mary Day (Doug) of Thousand Oaks, CA, Dorothy Woolf (Lynn) of Spokane, WA, and Jane Humphrey (Bob) of Vista, CA; six children, Randall J. Peterson (Judith) of Naperville, IL; Antonette Toni Walker of Bountiful, UT; Jan M. Barnhurst (Mike) of Henderson, NV; Val W. Peterson (Jennifer) of Kaysville, UT; Cydney P. Quinn (Steve) of New Canaan, CT; Kimberlee P. Mortensen (Corbett) of Popliffon, NE; 26 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

The funeral service will be held Monday, May 21st, at 1 p.m. in the Bountiful Mueller Park Stake Center (1800 Mueller Park Road), Bountiful, UT. A viewing will be held at the Ruskon Brothers Mortuary at 295 North Main, Bountiful, UT on Sunday from 6 pm to 8 pm and again at the Bountiful Mueller Park Stake Center preceding the funeral from 11:30 am - 12:30 pm. Interment will be in the Bountiful City Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the LDS Perpetual Education Fund or the Missionary Fund.